

# palectronic

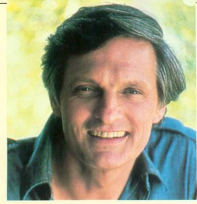
Atari XL  
Coleco Adam  
New Tandy  
Synths and  
More!



XL  
ADAM

1990





Computer enthusiast Alan Aida uses the ATARI 800XL Computer System. Aida reports: "It's going all the time!"

**Introducing the Atari XL Home Computers: We made them smart enough to know you're only human.**

**T**he new ATARI XL Home Computers prove that you can blend state-of-the-art technology with good old fashioned friendliness. What's a friendly computer? For one thing, it's a computer that speaks your language. Both the new ATARI 600XL™ and the new ATARI 800XL™ Computers come with a built-in BASIC language that uses the same simple English you use to converse with the rest of the world.

**Press the HELP button, not the panic button.**

Every ATARI XL Computer comes with a HELP key. Something you won't find on any other home computer. New programs are becoming available that let you use this key for helpful "prompts" when you're unsure of what to do next. Press another special key and your ATARI XL automatically performs a self-diagnostic check—a feature that can save you a needless trip to one of our more than 1,000 ATARI Service™ Centers.

**The ATARI 600XL: It Gets Smarter As You Do.**

With 16K of memory, the inexpensive ATARI 600XL can

# As your experience grows so can your Atari 600XL.



600XL Home Computer.

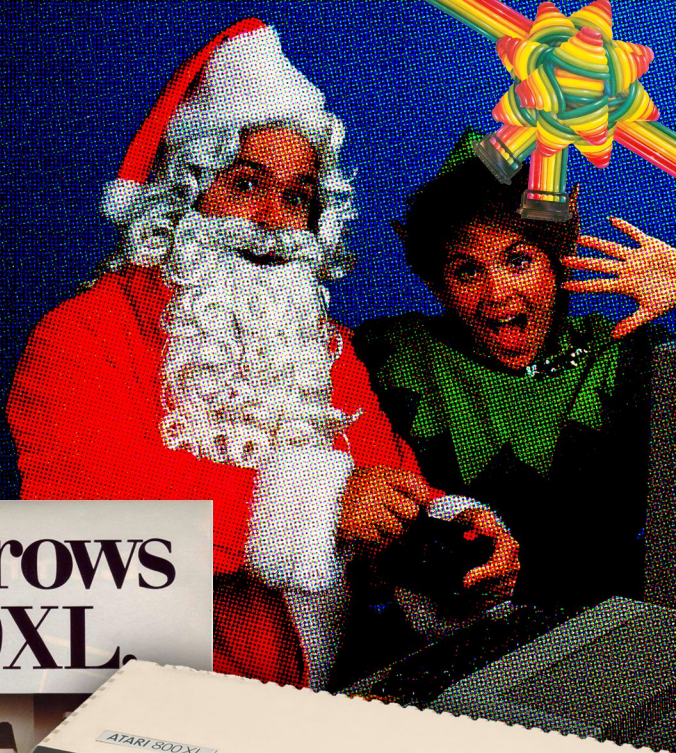
7. Disk Drive.

8. 80 Column Dot Matrix Printer.

9. Letter Quality Printer.

Atari released its cost-reduced successors to the aging Atari 400/800, the 16K 600XL and the 64K 800XL, late in 1983. Due to issues in scaling up manufacturing, there were extremely limited quantities available during the Christmas season. In addition, Atari priced the new computers \$50 higher than the Commodore 64 and VIC-20 respectively, a decision that effectively gifted Commodore the lion's share of Christmas sales, and seriously hindered the XL's adoption.

These goals, combined with the effects of the video-game crash, would lead Atari to sell off its home computer division to ousted Commodore CEO Jack Tramiel for little more than a Christmas carol.



As you might expect, the Atari 8-bit computers had some pretty decent arcade ports.

## MEET ADAM™ THE COLECOVISION® FAMILY COMPUTER SYSTEM.

**ADAM™ PERFORMS TASKS NO ORDINARY HOME COMPUTER CAN.**

Adam has a built-in 80K memory, which expands to 144K. So your memory workspace is enormous, giving you more flexibility than any ordinary home computer. But that's just the beginning. Adam components are actually six separate computers, all working in harmony with each other as a network called AdamNet™.

So, while one component is working on one task, other Adam components are automatically taking care of others.

**ADAM™ GIVES YOU A PROFESSIONAL KEYBOARD.**

The Adam keyboard is more advanced than those found in many of the more expensive computers.

**THE ADAM™ PRINTER GIVES YOU A HIGH QUALITY ELECTRONIC TYPEWRITER AT HOME.**

Adam comes with a letter-quality, daisy wheel printer (a peripheral that would cost you as much as the entire Adam system in many other home computers).

It's an 80 column printer that uses standard ribbon cartridges and interchangeable daisy wheels for different type styles. There's a 9 1/2" wide carriage for either single sheets or tankled paper. And the Adam printer types in both directions at a rate of 120 words per minute.

**ADAM™ OFFERS YOU CP/M™ COMPATIBLE PROGRAMS.**

The most popular of the thousands of CP/M™ compatible programs will be available on Adam digital data packs.

And soon there'll be additional Adam Smart Software for every member of the family. Like Financial Management, with the Adam integrated information management system. (We call it SmartFile™.) Interactive learning programs, adventure games, strategy games, and more arcade favorites.

**ADAM™ SOFTWARE GOES BEYOND "STATE-OF-THE-ART".**

Adam uses a totally new kind of software, a high-speed digital data pack. It can load programs with amazing speed and store up to 250 pages of double spaced typewritten text.

**ADAM™ COMES WITH THREE SMART™ SOFTWARE PROGRAMS.**

The SmartWrite™ Word Processor Program is built into the system. So you can edit and revise as you write making even the most difficult writing simple and fun. Adam rearranges words, sentences, even entire paragraphs.

And a SmartBasic™ digital data pack, which is source code compatible with AppleSoft™ 8K Basic and the Buck Rogers™ Planet of Zoom™ Super Game pack are also included.

**ADAM™ SUPER GAME PACK CAPTURES THE EXCITEMENT OF THE REAL ARCADE GAME PLUS EXTENDED PLAY ENHANCED GAME FEATURES**

The Official **BUCK ROGERS PLANET OF ZOOM™**

Coleco's Adam computer -- essentially a ColecoVision with added computer bits -- was powered by its large, heavy printer, a poor design decision that led to many a dead Adam, and has significantly discouraged collectors from acquiring these machines.

**BUCK ROGERS, PLANET OF ZOOM. Your one chance to defeat the toughest enemy of all. Time.**

If you've played Buck Rogers, Planet of Zoom in the arcade, you've had a taste of why more creative action is about. Now make your ready for a home game that uses the arcade vision and makes it even better, more challenging fun.

You battle your way through 3-D space. Maneuver through bullet firing enemy pods and alien saucers. Shoot it out with hopping robots and flying saucers and you'll be in a jam! Challenge the mother ship. But she's not on your side. You have to be fast to destroy the mother ship. To save the day, use mother goodness!

Look for Buck Rogers at your local store. But hurry! This is one game that sells itself moving fast.

Is it a computer? Is it a video-game console? Is it a typewriter? Who knows!

AN EXPANDED-INTERACTIVE VIDEO GAME PACK FOR USE WITH ADAM™ THE COLECOVISION® FAMILY COMPUTER SYSTEM





**Save \$80 on Radio Shack's New TRS-80 Color Computer 2!**

16K Standard BASIC Reg. 239.95  
**159.95**

16K Extended BASIC Reg. 319.95  
**239.95**

As low as \$23 Per Month on CitiLine Credit

**Radio Shack**  
The biggest name in little computers®  
A DIVISION OF TANDY CORPORATION

Then select our sale-priced 16K Extended BASIC Color Computer 2. Create incredible drawings and designs, simple one-line commands.

**Expandable.** Best of all, Color Computer 2 can expand easily as your computing skills grow. Add a cassette recorder to store and load your own programs, a telephone modem to access tomorrow's news and stock reports, a printer, joystick or a color mouse for more exciting game action, disk drives and more.

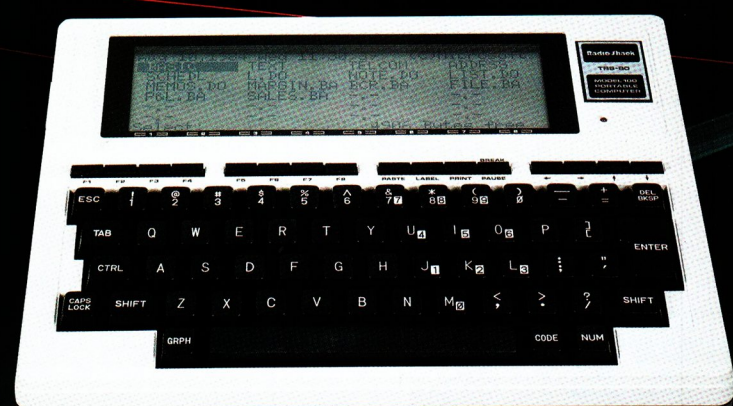
**The Perfect Gift to Give.** Or Get Come into a Radio Shack Computer Center, participating store or dealer near you and get a demonstration of our spectacular Color Computer 2.

Send for your free 1984 TRS-80 Computer Catalog.  
Mail To: Radio Shack, Dept. 84-A-574,  
399 One Tandy Center, Fort Worth, Texas 76102

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
COMPANY \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

**"Radio Shack has redefined the concept of personal computing with its TRS-80 Model 100 Portable Computer"**

—Isaac Asimov  
Renowned Science and  
Science Fiction Author



Tandy's Color Computer 2 would improve on the original in a number of ways, abandoning the silver case and chiclet keyboard, and doubling the maximum RAM to 64K.

Tandy also introduced the TRS-80 Model 100, which with its large 40 character by 8 line screen quickly became popular with journalists, who could file their stories remotely using the built-in 300 baud modem. Tandy would sell over 6 million Model 100s.

Timex would release its authorized "clone" of the Sinclair ZX Spectrum in 1983, but due to a few changes, it wasn't compatible with binary Spectrum programs, severely restricting its software library. It also, unlike what the advertisement here would have you believe, only had 48K of RAM (the other 24K was ROM; including it in the total memory was quite unconventional!)

Timex Computer Corporation (the North American arm) would fold in early 1984.

While Tandy's Model 100 was a hit, the low-cost 4KB MC-10 was a miss. It was discontinued after a year.

Now from Timex...a powerful new computer.

# 72K COLOR SOUND UNDER \$200\*

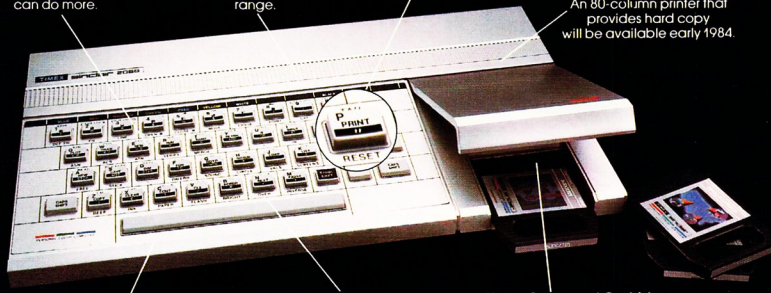
Timex introduces a second generation of home computers designed with one purpose in mind: to be useful. With 72K on-board memory, it's powerful enough to solve more problems in your home. Entertain you with brilliant color graphics and 8-octave sound. Plus do word processing in addition to spread-sheet functions.

**72K on-board memory.** More memory than any computer in its class. And more memory means you can do more.

**8-octave sound.** Can be used to create four sounds simultaneously over a wide frequency range.

**Unique one-touch entry.** Requires no typing skills; makes programming easier to learn.

**Word processing capability.** This program provides a 64-character wide screen when used with a video monitor. An 80-column printer that provides hard copy will be available early 1984.



**Sleek new compact design.** Fits easily on any desk or table.

**Raised typewriter keyboard.** With full-travel keys is based on world's most popular electronic keyboard design.

**Timex Command Cartridges.** Provide faster, easier program loading, take up less space.

**TIMEX SINCLAIR 2068**

To purchase the Timex Sinclair 2068 computer see your local dealer, or call 1-800-24-TI-M-E-X.



\*Suggested retail price.

© Timex Computer Corporation, 1983





Casio's inexpensive Casiotone keyboards featured auto-accompaniment and a variety of "instruments" generated using "vowel-consonant synthesis", a hybrid digital and analogue method of sound generation vaguely modelled on the human voice.

They quickly emerged as a replacement for the home organ.

Perhaps best known for its use in the Van Halen song "Jump", Yamaha's DX7 was one of the first MIDI (Musical Instrument Digital Interface)-capable synthesizers, which allowed electronic instruments to "talk" to each other, to "sequencing" devices, and to computers.



# ENTER

THE WORLD OF COMPUTERS AND ELECTRONIC GAMES S' 50

## COMPUTER ROCK & ROLL

Thomas Dolby, The Police and Others Make Computers Rock—and You Can, Too!

## TOUCHDOWN!

Computers Score Big In Pro Football

PLUS: Programming Video Game Reviews



The first Casio G-Shock watch was designed to be waterproof, and drop-proof to 10 metres. It also had a stopwatch.

The Audio-Technica Sound Burger attempted to make records portable via a battery-powered, compact design, but it only worked on stable, flat surfaces and so its value over other portable turntables was questionable.

It did, however, have a really cool name!

Prior to the Sony Betacam, video cameras needed to be connected to an external tape recorder, which limited their portability.

By developing a new videotape format that could fit inside the camera body, Sony freed up camera-people to wander.



Similarly, the cordless phone freed people up to wander their houses, rather than be tethered to their landline.

Previously all you could do was get a longer handset cord, which could trip up your family members, or get chewed by your dog.



### Send Holiday Greetings—Electronically!

**Cordless-Handset Telephone Lets You Walk—And Talk!**

**99<sup>95</sup>**

Use on Desk—or Fits Over Standard Modular Wall Jack

- 50-Foot Range
- Installs in Seconds
- Built-in Rechargeable Nickel-Cadmium Batteries



**Our Best Portable Phone! Cordless, Computerized**

**199<sup>95</sup>**

Make and Take Calls Anywhere! Auto-Redial of Busy or Unanswered Numbers. Universal Dial System. Built-in rechargeable batteries and more. U.L. listed. 43-293

Cordless Intercom. Tool Just Plug Regular Phone Into Base

**Radio Shack ET-350A.** Real convenience at an amazing low price. Works just like your regular phone. The big difference is that you're not restricted by a cord! Features one-button Auto-Redial of the last number called. Universal Dial System for pushbutton convenience even on rotary dial lines. Privacy/ringtone button, electronic tone ringer. Automatic recharger is built into base unit. U.L. listed. Come in and try it! 43-266

**Radio Shack ET-330.** Built-in microprocessor for easy operation and extra features! A tone indicates when you are nearing the range limit. Has one-button memory dialing of two 10-digit numbers. Programmable security code prevents other cordless phones from accessing your line. One-button Auto-Redial of busy or unanswered numbers. Universal Dial System. Built-in rechargeable batteries and more. U.L. listed. 43-293

**Voice Activated, Dual-Cassette Answerer with Remote Control**

**179<sup>95</sup>**

Play Back Messages Through Any Phone While You're Away!



**Deluxe Telephone Dialer/Amplifier**

**139<sup>95</sup>**

Switchable Tone or Ringing

**Auto-Dial 32-Number On-Hook Dialing And Two-Way Amplifier for "Hands-Free" Calling**

**DIGIFONE™ TAD-114.** Voice-actuated system hangs up when called is finished, or when selectable 30-second or 3-minute limit is reached. Fast-forward and audible review help you find important messages quickly. When you're at home, Call Monitor lets you determine who's calling before answering. Will record both sides of conversations. Built-in condenser mike. Pocket-size remote recharges 9Volt battery. U.L. listed. 43-314

**DIGIFONE™ 160.** The "revolutionary" new cordless phone system and lets you make phone calls and answer calls as back-by phone and alternating lines. Backup system protects U.L. listed. 43-293

**AA batteries**





**Which is the best way to inflate your score?**

Better find out... Here comes Dig Dug from Atari.

**Which player is really firing up his score?**

Think quick... Here comes Moon Patrol from Atari.

**NOW YOU CAN GET INTO POLE POSITION AT HOME.**

Atari hedged its bets by releasing its newest arcade conversions for both its consoles and its home computers, but it would be too little, too late. By mid-next year, Atari's home computer and console divisions would be sold.

Jumpman was a huge hit for Epyx, propelling it to \$10m in sales in 1983. Monopoly manufacturer Parker Brothers, on the other hand, would soon exit the video-game market, put off by the video-game crash.

**Which player is making a tactical error?**

With thirty different levels, Jumpman set a new bar for platform games.

**HOW TO GET Q-BERT OUT OF YOUR SYSTEM.**

For your home system, your time has come. Because now you can get things popping with any of these popular home video computer formats. Get popping your mouse video computer. Get popping your Atari 2600. Get popping your Commodore 64. Get popping your Intellivision. Get popping your Atari 400. Get popping your Atari 800. Get popping your Atari 2600. Get popping your ColecoVision.

**PITSTOP WHERE WINNING IS THE PITS.**

With thirty different levels, Jumpman set a new bar for platform games.

**JUMPMAN'S A GREAT GAME. BUT YOU'VE GOT TO WATCH YOUR STEP.**

**When you play Congo Bongo you'll die laughing.**

A funny thing happens when you play Congo Bongo: the new home game you have to get to Congo in the night. You see, the jungle is full of things that will kill you. You have to get to Congo in the night. You see, the jungle is full of things that will kill you. You have to get to Congo in the night. You see, the jungle is full of things that will kill you.

**EVERYONE HAS THEIR OWN SYSTEM FOR PLAYING POPEYE.**

Known far more for its pinball machines, Q-Bert was Gottlieb's only successful video-game.

Unlike conventional racing games, in Pitstop you could blow your tires or run out of gas.

Congo Bongo was a commercial failure, and widely panned as the worst game of 1983.

Donkey Kong was originally meant to be a Popeye game, but Nintendo couldn't get the licenses in time. If they had, there would have never been a Mario, nor Mario Brothers!

Based on the BC comic strip, BC's Quest for Tires would win a number of awards for its novel gameplay and cartoon-like presentation.

Like BC, Snokie has you trying to rescue your girlfriend, except Snokie is a "snowbird" (not a penguin!) and the setting is the Arctic.

Famous for its flight simulator, Sublogic released this "pinball simulator" with a flying theme. You could adjust almost 40 different game mechanics.

Founded by Jeff Minter (aka "Yak the Hairy") Llamasoft produced a number of games starring llamas, camels and sheep.

**QUEST FOR TIRES**

ATARI, APPLE, COM 64, COLECO

**Run! Jump! Slide! Flee!**

**SNOKIE**

ARCADE ACTION AT ITS VERY BEST

**TAKE A BREAK!**

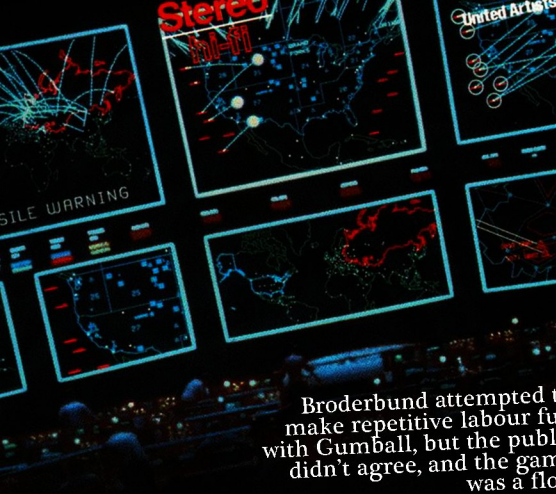
**NIGHT MISSION PINBALL**

WITH NIGHT MISSION PINBALL

**LLAMASOFT**

AVIATION GAMES SOFTWARE





Broderbund attempted to make repetitive labour fun with Gumball, but the public didn't agree, and the game was a flop.

## Betcha Cant Play Just One!

**Drol™**

You will soon come to expect the unexpected in the futuristic and challenging underground world of Drol. A little red-headed girl and her copper-colored brother have been lured by a witch doctor's curse into the multi-layered realm of a witch doctor's curse into the multi-layered realm of a witch doctor's curse...

**Gumball™**

Hours of fun await you at the Sticky Gum Factory where you'll be working against the clock to sort a tasty collection of colorful gumballs. Your job may seem sweet at first, but after you've discovered the explosive-laced gumballs that you have fallen off more than you can chew, that you have fallen off more than you can chew...

**Irresistible Fun From Broderbund!**

Broderbund Software  
Discover the Difference

## TURN YOUR HOME INTO THE HOTTEST ARCADE IN TOWN

**O'RILEY'S MINE**

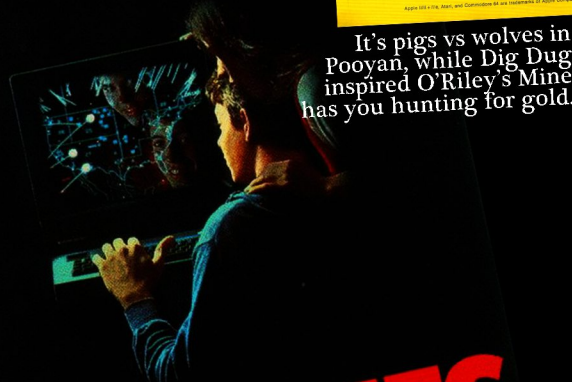
You're a mad Indiana-style digger... You'll need the luck of the Irish to win the gold mine!

**POOYAN™**

One of the biggest arcade game hits from the 1980s is now available on your home computer. You'll need a pack of hungry wolves to get to the top of the mountain...

**Flight Simulator II**

Flight Simulator II would become the standard for many years.



It's pigs vs wolves in Pooyan, while Dig Dug inspired O'Riley's Mine has you hunting for gold.

## WHAT DO EACH OF THESE HAYDEN GAMES GIVE YOU THAT NO OTHER GAME CAN?



Now you'll have twice as much fun playing Hayden games. Because when you buy one game, we'll give you any of these games free. And what games? There are widely popular fast action games like LASER BOUNCE, WARGLE and SHUTTLE INTERCEPT. And strategy games that are in a class by themselves, such as the classic chess game, SARGON II. Even text adventure games like CRIME STOPPER and CRYSTAL CAVERNS that will keep you on the edge of your chair. Inside every one of these Hayden games, you'll find a coupon good for another game of your choice.

# WARGAMES

Inspired by video-games, the 1983 film Wargames featured an artificially intelligent supercomputer triggered into trying to start a nuclear war by a game-seeking hacker.

Sargon II was the sequel to the popular chess game. It was better at playing chess than most dedicated chess computers (or players!)

See your dealer...  
Order Line: 800-637-4983

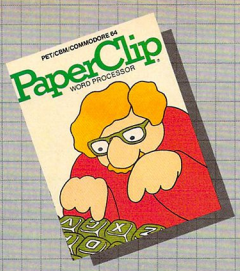
subLOGIC Corporation  
710 Copperbrook  
Champaign, IL 61815  
(312) 355-8425 Telex: 20

"Dot addressable" printers allowed for much finer graphical output, required for software such as The Print Shop.

## The perfect present for your computer. The STX-80 printer for Christmas '83!

The PaperClip word-processor used a "dongle" that plugged into the joystick port as a form of copy protection. It held a digital "key" that was used to decrypt the program.

Batteries Included also made a database called "Delphi's Oracle" (no, not that Oracle...)



**PaperClip™**  
Professional Word Processor  
For Commodore 64 and CBM/SuperPet

"Absolutely the most versatile word processor I have seen."  
Midnight Software Gazette March/April, 1983

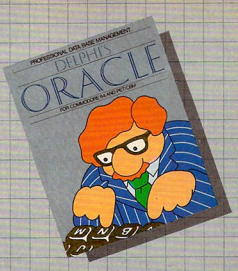
"...a very powerful word processor, with 96 many features that most people only need a fraction of them."  
COMPUTE! April, 1983

So easy to use that even novices can get professional results.

PaperClip has every standard word processor function, plus many exclusive features, including horizontal scrolling for charts and wide reports, up to 250 columns, column moves, all phonetic keys and arithmetic. Works with 80 column cards and every popular printer, with instant printer setup. Professional handling of form letters, mail list merge, and large documents.

Complete, professional and easy to use. No where else will you find PaperClip's capabilities at this breakthrough price.

**\$125**



**Delphi's Oracle** NEW!  
Professional Data Base Management  
For Commodore 64 and PET/CBM

Delphi's Oracle is a powerful information handling program that allows you to enter, retrieve and update data with incredible speed and flexibility.

- Large record size (over 9000 characters) • Up to 99 fields and 9 display pages per record • Includes report writer and mail label printing • Design your own forms on the screen or on printed reports

Delphi's Oracle brings power and versatility usually found only in mainframe or minicomputer systems, with provision for safeguarding accurate data entry, and excellent flexibility in searching for records.

**\$150**

What a great gift idea!  
It's the STX-80 printer from Star. Sleek, compact and priced under \$200, it's sure to put you in a very giving mood.

The STX-80 prints whisper-quiet printouts. It features true descenders, foreign language characters and special symbols. It offers both finely detailed dot addressable and block graphics.

And you can give it with confidence knowing that it can run with virtually every type of personal and business computer.

The STX-80 printer from Star. It's the perfect gift for every computer user in your life. Especially if one of them happens to be you!

Enjoy your presents and have a happy and healthy holiday.



Computer Peripherals Division, P.O. Box 61186, Dallas, TX 75261 (214) 456-0052



## BATTERIES INCLUDED

- |   |   |  |   |
|---|---|--|---|
| Batteries Included, U.S.A.<br>(213) 858-2878                    | Software Distributors<br>Calver City, California<br>Cal: (800) 282-4022 | R & S Micro Services<br>Minneapolis, Minnesota<br>(612) 636-7505 | OSI Distributors, Inc.<br>Spring Valley, New York<br>(914) 352-0700 |
| CBM Systems<br>Van Nuys, California<br>(818) 904-0111           | Software International<br>Irvine, California<br>(714) 861-7640          | City Software<br>Milwaukee, Wisconsin<br>(414) 277-1220          | Bob Hart & Assoc.<br>Greenville, South Carolina<br>(803) 269-9840   |
| Kapri International<br>Sun Valley, California<br>(213) 765-2774 | Lightware Computer<br>Yakima, Washington<br>(800) 678-8507              | AB Computers<br>Colum, Pennsylvania<br>(213) 652-7727            | Batteries Included<br>Toronto, Ontario<br>(416) 598-1408            |

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MAL FUNCTION

SNAG JNR

SCREAMING FOUL UP

T. HITCH



THE BUGS ARE STILL RECOVERING FROM THE BASHING OUR PROGRAMMER GAVE THEM IN THE LAST ISSUE ...!!

MAYBE WE DID GO A BIT TOO FAR!







a HUGE  
Thank You  
to all of our  
Kickstarter  
backers!



Thanks to you,

**paleoTronic**  
is coming...



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BYTE December 1983

Antic December 1983

Compute! December 1983

Compute's Gazette December 1983

Computers and Video Games December 1983

Electronic Fun with Computers and Games December 1983

Enter December / January 1983

Microcomputing December 1983

Softalk December 1982

Video Games December 1983

Your Computer December 1983

ZXComputing December 1983

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NEXT UP...

1984

